

Reactor head lifted Defueling of TMI Unit 2 is a bit closer

A big step was taken recently toward eventual defueling of the TMI Unit 2 reactor when the reactor head was lifted off and an Internals Indexing Fixture (IIF) was set in place on the vessel.

A spokesman for General Public Utilities, owner of the plant, says the head removal provides ready access to the internal components of the reactor vessel which is necessary for eventual defueling.

The removal, financed with Department of Energy funds administered by EG&G Idaho's TMI-Technical Integration Office, took a little more than 48 hours to complete and involved 40 GPU employees working in 12-hour shifts around the clock.

The 160-ton reactor head was lifted off the vessel by a polar crane and placed on a stand. The crane then was used to lower the IIF, a six-foot high steel cylinder, onto the top of the reactor. The IIF then was filled with five feet of water and a one and three-fourths inch thick lead and steel platform was placed on top of the cylinder. The filling and capping of the IIF reduced radiation levels in the reactor building to about the same level as before the head was removed. The only problems encountered in the entire process was in aligning pins on the head storage stand with the head itself.

Norm Spang, EG&G Idaho senior project engineer, Reactor Evaluation Program, TMI-TIO, says that while EG&G Idaho employees

had no personnel participating in the removal, "we followed the work closely."

He says one outcome of the removal, besides being a preliminary step to defueling, will be a comprehensive report which will detail all the removal effort.

The report will describe all the activities from plan development to on-site preparation to problems and solutions. "The report will provide detailed under head characterization such as radiation levels and will tell us if the prediction techniques for radiation levels were accurate," he says.

Defueling of the reactor is scheduled for July 1985.

Former Naval official to speak at Hispanic Heritage Week

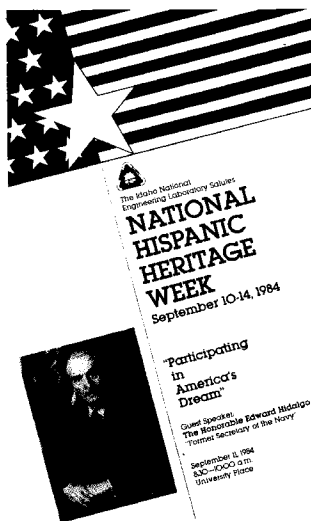
Hispanic Heritage Week will be celebrated throughout the nation Sept. 9-15. The INEL will join in this celebration as contractors jointly host a special program held in recognition of the contributions Hispanics have made to this country.

The Honorable Edward Hidalgo will be the guest speaker at the program, which will be held Tuesday, Sept. 11, 8:30 a.m. until 10 a.m. at University Place. Hidalgo was Secretary of the U.S. Navy from 1979-1981; he is currently associated with the Washington, D.C. office of the Columbus, Ohio law firm of Vorys, Sater, Seymour and Pease.

Born in Mexico City, Mex., and a resident of the United States since early childhood, Hidalgo holds a B.A. magna cum laude from Holy Cross College, a juris doctorate from Columbia Law School and a degree in civil law from the University of Mexico.

In 1945 and 1946, Hidalgo served as a special assistant to the Secretary of Navy, James Forrestal. Between 1946 and 1972 he practiced law, then became special assistant for Economic Affairs to the director of the U.S. Information Agency in 1973 and later was named general counsel and congressional liaison of the agency.

If interested in attending, please call Linda



Collins (6-9169) and give her your name and work location. Site employees will be able to get to work as a special bus has been scheduled to leave University Place at 10:25 a.m. going to TAN; the regularly scheduled 10:25 a.m. bus will also be leaving the WCB going to CFA.

Hoover oversees nuclear weapons

William Hoover has been sworn in as assistant secretary for Defense Programs, at the U.S. Department of Energy. As assistant secretary, Hoover is responsible for management of the nation's nuclear weapons program including directing the design, development, testing, production and retirement of the U.S. nuclear weapons arsenal.

Hoover was nominated to this position by President Reagan on April 18, 1984, and confirmed by the Senate Aug. 9, 1984. He retired from the Air Force as a Major General Aug. 1, 1984, after 30 years of service.

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Brewer resigns DOE post

Shelby Brewer, DOE's assistant secretary for Nuclear Energy, has resigned as of Sept. 1, 1984. He will join Combustion Engineering, Inc., Windsor, Conn., as vice-president—operations for the Nuclear Power Systems Division.

In a letter to President Reagan, Brewer stated that his three and one-half years as assistant secretary were "the most challenging and productive period of my professional life."

Some of the accomplishments made under Brewer's direction were: passage of the Nuclear Waste Policy Act of 1982; preparation of and

submission of nuclear regulatory reform legislation to Congress; actions to reduce federal intrusion and other impediments to economic and safe application of nuclear energy; turnaround of an eroding business posture in the U.S. uranium enrichment enterprise; Three Mile Island recovery mobilization; major progress on reformulating and revitalizing advanced nuclear system development programs; and initiatives to regain U.S. leadership and influence in international nuclear commerce.